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Seeds of Honey Plants

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U. S. Dept. of Agriculture

PELLETT GARDENS

ATLANTIC, IOWA

WINTER AND SPRING 1947

Featuring Unusual New Plants

**Mountain Mint**, a good honey plant, promises to be a profitable crop for cultivation.



**Mountain Mint is an abundant source of nectar**

This species of Mountain Mint, *pycnanthemum pilosum*, may become an important source of essential oils. Preliminary tests indicate that a much heavier yield of oil can be distilled from this plant as compared to the yields obtained from other mints now in cultivation. It contains both menthol and thymol in such abundance as to indicate a substantial profit.

Mountain Mint is an abundant source of nectar. It blooms heavily in August and September and is very attractive to the bees. A single large plant may have 100,000 or more florets. Its strong, pleasant, mint odor makes it a most desirable plant for herb gardens.

It is native to the middlewest, the natural habitat being partially wooded hillsides. It has been reported as a source of surplus honey in some localities along the Mississippi river.

Mountain Mint responds well to cultivation on our grounds. It requires extra work the first season in transplanting and cultivation to get it started but apparently a planting will last a number of years. It grows three to four feet tall.

Larger tests of this plant are planned to make sufficient oil available for extensive study of the ingredients. The plant is likely to become a very profitable cultivated crop once facilities for distillation are available. In the meantime, as a good honey plant and interesting herb, we anticipate that many will want to try growing this plant and thus determine the localities where it is best adapted.



## MOUNTAIN MINT (*Pycnanthemum pilosum*)

This is the Mountain Mint described on the front page. This plant has only now become prominent and only limited amount of seed is available. The seed is tiny, there being more than 100,000 to the ounce.

Seed, very small trial packet 20c, liberal packet \$1.00, ½ ounce \$5.00, ounce \$8.50, postpaid.

## TRIFOLIUM AMBIGUUM

Named "Pellett Clover" by the Iowa Bee-Keeper's Association.

This very unusual clover spreads rapidly from deep rhizomous roots and unlike most clovers, increases from year to year. A plot of this at Pellett Gardens was grown from root divisions set 18 inches apart in rows which were four feet apart. The plants spread rapidly and completely filled the spaces between, early the second season.



**Trifolium Ambiguum in bloom.**

This plant blooms in June and July and the bees visit the flowers freely. It appears to be the equal of any as a honey plant. The stem resembles that of red clover while the bloom has some resemblance to alsike though larger.

The corolla tubes are short so that the nectar is readily available to short tongued insects. The set of seed was heavy in our small plot and it appears that this plant can be propagated rapidly by seed as well as roots once sufficient acreage is established from which to harvest seed.

This clover leafs out very early in the spring. At first only basil leaves appear. These leaves are usually very large and the individual leafstalks are often more than a foot high. In late May the flowering stems appear. In our plots they are three to four feet tall at height of bloom and each stem has many flower heads at different heights.

There are many questions yet to be answered concerning the adaptibility of this clover to different soils and various field conditons. It thrives wonderfully on our grounds. A well established plant measured strong roots three to four feet long and a top spread of three feet. The rate of increase from the rhizomous roots is very surprising. Rows planted 3½ feet apart in April 1946 were growing together in places five months later.





**Mounting made of a portion of the root of one plant showing how it spreads by frequent branching.**

Root divisions of this clover can be planted in either fall or spring. In the northern states, early spring planting is probably a little the best. In the south and middle south, fall planting may be preferable.

Seed is not yet available. We offer root divisions for trial plantings.

Root division, 25 for \$2.00, 100 for \$5.00, 250 for \$10.00, 500 for \$18.00, postpaid. Per 1000, \$30.00, not prepaid. Shipping season, late fall, winter and spring up to May 10th.

## **WHITE DUTCH CLOVER**

**(*Trifolium repens*)**

White Dutch or pasture clover has long been the main dependence for a honey crop over a wide area of the Northeastern States. It is an important source of nectar in much of the middle-west. The plant is easily naturalized along roadsides, in pastures and waste places. Should be included in any mixture of grasses for pasture.

Seed, per packet 20c, \$1.20 per pound, postpaid.

## **LADINO CLOVER**

Ladino clover is a giant white clover which is proving very popular in many places. It makes two or three times the growth of ordinary white clover where it does well. It is of particular value under irrigation or in areas with abundant rainfall and fertile soil. The bee-keeper can expect it to yield honey which is very similar to that produced from the common white clover.

The seed is very small. Two pounds per acre on a well prepared seedbed should be sufficient.

Our early supply of Ladino is certified seed. Seed per packet 20c, \$2.75 per pound, postpaid.

## **CRIMSON CLOVER**

**(*Trifolium Incarnatum*)**

Crimson clover is a winter annual grown from the southern corn belt south and east. It winter-



kills in the north when planted in the fall. Each stem is terminated by a head of scarlet or crimson flowers from which it gets its name. It is reported as especially important as a source of honey in Kentucky. It ranks high as a honey plant and is a pretty sight when in bloom.

Seed, per packet 20c, two pounds \$1.00, postpaid. Write for price on larger quantity.

## **STRAWBERRY CLOVER**

(*Trifolium fragiferum*) is a new clover which is salt tolerant and will grow on such soils where other clovers will not grow. It is to be found in moist places where water stands near the surface. Indications are that it must have abundant moisture continually to prosper. If you want something new, try strawberry clover. Little is known as yet about its adaptations to various soil types in eastern localities.

Seed, per packet, 20c.

## **SWEET CLOVER**

(*Melilotus*)

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NOTE: We offer sweet clovers only for your convenience in securing trial quantities. If you want larger quantities you can probably secure them in your localities. If not, write us and we will suggest a source of supply.

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Sweet clover ranks among the best honey plants in this country. Climatically, it is adapted to practically all the United States and southern Canada. It will thrive on a wide range of soils and is extensively used as a forage crop. There are two common varieties of the biennial sweet clover, the white blossom and the yellow blossom. The yellow blossom variety blooms earlier than the white blossom. We offer seed of the white blossom and yellow blossom mixed.

Packet 20c, two pounds for \$1.00 postpaid.

**HUBAM CLOVER** is the white annual sweet clover. It is one of the best plants for honey and can be depended upon for bloom the same season when planted early. It blooms over a long season.

Seed, per packet 20c, pound 75c, five pounds \$2.75, postpaid.

## **MADRID SWEET CLOVER**

Madrid is an outstanding variety of biennial yellow sweet clover. It is new in this country and originally came from Spain. It is outstanding for early seedling vigor and high yields of forage. It promises to be superior to the common yellow in the great plains region and throughout the corn belt. It is a heavy seed producer, maturing slightly later than the common yellow.

Seed, per packet 20c, pound 75c, five pounds \$3.00, postpaid.

## **EVERGREEN SWEET CLOVER**

Another new development, this variety blooms later in the season than other biennial sweet



## Visitors Welcome at Pellett Gardens

clovers. It is a vigorous grower and heavy producer of forage. It is of special interest to beekeepers because of its late blooming period.

Seed is very scarce. Per packet 20c.

### WAGNER PEA

(*Lathyrus silvestris wagneri*)

This plant is a heavy producer of forage for livetsock. A deep rooting perennial which starts slowly and requires two or three years to become fully established. Once established, it is reported to succeed on poor soil, stand much dry weather and to last for a lifetime. The bees work it much and reports indicate that it is a good honey plant. It was developed by a German plant breeder after many years of effort.

Seed is very scarce. Per packet 20c, ¼ pound \$1.00, pound \$3.00, postpaid.

### SAINFOIN or ESPARCET

(*Onobrychis*)

Sainfoin is the main source of honey in some European countries. It is drought resistant and will grow on soils where the clovers do poorly. The flowers are so attractive as to make it worth

## The Bee Garden

When the honeybee visits the garden she is intent only on finding food for her family. In the opening flower she finds her every need supplied. With the nectar and pollen she feeds the multitude of growing larvae. They also provide the raw material from which she makes the wax to build the combs in which to store the food and rear the brood.

She has no thought of the service she renders in the distribution of the precious pollen grains which insures the setting of seed of so many fruits and flowers. Uncounted millions of wealth come to the human race as a result of this unconscious activity.

There is a growing interest on the part of many gardeners in the plant and insect relationship which leads them to select plants for the specific reason that they are attractive to insects. The bee garden first became popular in Europe but it finds many who enjoy its pleasures in this country. The greater the variety of flowers offering a rich yield of nectar the greater the variety of insect visitors. As a means of quiet enjoyment or the relaxation of tense nerves the bee garden provides an ideal outlet.



growing in the flower garden as well as in the field. As a honey plant it has few equals as the bees visit the flowers freely from the time of the first opening until the last have faded. Blooms May and June. The honey is of fine quality, and that most often found in the stores of Paris, France, is from this source.

Seed, per packet 20c, \$1.00 per pound, postpaid.

## **BIRDSFOOT TREFOIL**

**(Lotus Corniculatus)**

Birdsfoot trefoil is a very drought resistant forage plant which is new to American agriculture. Tests have indicated that it is adapted to a wide variety of soils and will succeed under varied climatic conditions. It succeeds on some soils where alfalfa and the clovers do poorly. The acreage is expanding as farmers became familiar with it. It is especially valuable when mixed with grasses for a pasture crop.

In England it is regarded as a valuable bee plant and beemen in eastern New York report good crops of well flavored honey from it. It blooms freely in early summer and continues with a light bloom until frost. For field culture prepare as for clover or alfalfa and seed in either spring or fall. Three to six pounds of seed per acre, with other grasses.

Seed, per packet 20c, per pound \$3.00, postpaid. Seed is scarce, limit five pounds to a customer.

Innoculation for Birdsfoot Trefoil, bushel size can 50c, postpaid.

## **SUBTERRANEAN CLOVER**

This clover which was imported from Australia, is a dense growing, self seeding pasture and hay crop. It does best in sections with fairly mild winters, starts with the fall rains, grows through the winter, produces good forage all spring and then dries up and seeds in mid-summer. This legume has become an important crop for an area in Oregon where it is reported as a lifesaver for worn out soil. Reports indicate that it may gain much favor in some southern states.

We have no information regarding its value as a honey plant.

We offer seed of Tallarook variety in trial quantity. Per packet 20c, ¼ pound \$1.00, pound \$2.50, postpaid.

## **GOLDEN HONEY PLANT (*Actinomeris alternifolia*)**

Golden Honey Plant, also known as Wingstem or Crownbeard is one of the best native honey plants of the Mississippi valley. Where this plant is plentiful the bee-keeper need never worry about abundant stores for winter. It is a rather coarse perennial about five feet tall with irregular yellow flowers. It blooms in August and never fails to find the bees working it. Will grow in either sun or shade. Fine for waste land. Plant in winter or early spring while the soil is cool.

Seed, 20c per packet, two ounces \$1.00, ½ pound \$2.50, postpaid.



## **ANISE-HYSSOP or FRAGRANT GIANT**

### **HYSSOP (*Agastache anethiodora*)**

This wonder honey plant attracts the bees more consistently than any other of the 500 under observation in American Bee Journal trial garden.



Anise Hyssop furnishes an abundance of bloom beginning early in June. It blooms heavily for over two months and continues with some bloom until October. The bees work it heavily and honey from this source is reported to be of fine quality. It is native to the middlewest and pioneer settlers reported fine crops of honey from it. The plant is perennial. It furnishes some bloom the first year from seed.

Anise Hyssop is an old Indian herb and of special interest to herb gardeners. Its abundance of bloom makes it desirable for flower gardens as well.

Seed of Anise Hyssop is very small, perhaps a half million to the pound. The seed should be sown on top of the ground in late fall, winter or very early spring while the soil is cool. If your ground is weedy as most cultivated areas are, the planting will require weeding the first season to get started. Once established a planting should last for several years. Another way is to start the seed in greenhouse or window box and transplant to the open ground when the plants are two or three inches high. Set about 15 inches apart in the row.

Seed, 20c per packet, \$2.00 per ounce, postpaid.

Small plants, right for transplanting, \$1.00 per dozen, \$5.00 per 100 postpaid. Order plants for early spring only. No shipments after May 1st. We will have limited quantity in storage for winter delivery to points south.

### **GIANT HYSSOP**

#### **(*Agastache Scrophulariaefolia*)**

The giant hyssop is a perennial common to open woodlands and partially shady places which flowers in August and September. It reaches a height of five or six feet and is one of the really good bee plants.

Seed, 20c per packet.



## **PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE**

**(*Lythrum salicaria*)**

Purple loosestrife is very adaptable and will grow either on dry land or in boggy spots with its roots in water. The abundant pink flowers are very ornamental and last for weeks in mid-summer. It is the source of much good honey in some localities.

It does best on wet land and will naturalize readily on some ground so wet that few plants will grow. Some bee-keepers have improved local bee pasture by sowing along streams. The plant gradually spreads down stream.

The seed which is very small should be sown on top of the ground in late winter or early spring.

Seed, 20c per packet, \$1.00 per ounce, ¼ pound \$3.00, postpaid.

## **WOOD MINT**

**(*Blephilia ciliata*)**

Wood mint is a perennial which will grow either in partial shade or open sun. With us it blooms through the month of June and the flowers swarm with bees. The attractive flowers offer attraction as a garden plant as well as bee plant.

Seed, 20c per packet.

## **MOTHERWORT**

**(*Leonurus Cardiaca*)**

Motherwort is native of Asia that has been naturalized in many American localities. It is perennial and grows to a height of three or four feet. It is easily raised from seeds and once established should remain with little attention for many years.

The flowers grow in dense cluster around the stem and the bloom continues for a long period. Bees are attracted to the flowers in large numbers and it is one of the best plants to sow in waste places for bee pasture.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **PEA TREE**

**(*Caragana arborescens*)**

The pea tree is a very hardy shrub or small tree which comes from Siberia. It is drought resistant and is much used for hedge in the Dakotas and in western Canada. It is a free bloomer and the pea-like blossoms yield an abundant supply of well flavored honey in spring.

Seed, per packet 20c, ¼ pound \$1.00, postpaid.

## **SIMPSON'S HONEY PLANT**

**(*Scrophularia marilandica*)**

Simpson's Honey Plant, also commonly known as Figwort has long been famous for its rich store of nectar for the bees. The flowers are small but abundant and rich in honey. The plant is perennial and grows from three to six feet high. It will grow in either sun or shade and is often found growing wild in wooded areas. It blooms



# More About That New Clover

A clover that increases rapidly from deep underground rhizomatic roots

By Frank C. Pellett

SO much interest has been manifested in the clover described in this magazine in November, 1945 that a progress report seems necessary. It is one of about 100 new legumes which have been planted in the test garden maintained by the American Bee Journal on the writer's farm at Atlantic, Iowa. These have been brought together through correspondence with agronomists and plant collectors throughout the temperate world.

The new clover is *Trifolium ambiguum* which comes from the Caucasus in eastern Europe. Since it is new to this country and had no common name, officials of the Iowa Beekeepers Association wrote the secretary of agriculture at Washington to suggest that it be named "Pellett Clover" as a compliment to the effort being made in the test garden. The name "Kura Clover" has also been suggested.

This new clover is a deep rooted perennial and four year old plants in our garden have a root system such as one rarely finds with any plant. A plant dug up at the time of the honey plant conference in 1945 had a mass of roots sufficient to nearly fill a bushel basket although a large portion of the extensive spread was left in the ground when cut off at three feet below the surface. Indications were that the roots must penetrate to ten feet or more in depth to judge from the size at the point where they were cut.

The surprising thing about the plant is the way in which it branches and rebranches, constantly sending new leaves to the surface. If any branch is cut off and reset it grows vigorously and the new plant spreads in similar manner. Root divisions set in April on our grounds have multiplied by twenty or more by September. It is easy to establish new plantings by setting such divisions in rows three or four feet apart with plants twelve to eighteen inches apart in the row. In a little more than a year such rows are completely filled until one cannot tell where the original plants were set and there is a solid mass of clover over the area.

The plants are still in the experimental stage and there is little information available as to the requirements of soil and climate to insure

success. There has been a wide distribution of plants by Melvin Pellett of Pellett Gardens, Atlantic, Iowa for trial. Hundreds of questions are asked



Root divisions, set in rows four feet apart in April and May, had spread nearly to fill the vacant space by September.



A portion of the roots uncovered to show how they branch and form new plants.



for which, as yet, there are no answers. We only know that it does exceedingly well on rich black soil of Pellett Gardens. A few reports have been received which indicate that it does poorly on sandy soils. Whether this may be true of all light soils remains to be determined.

No seed is available as all seed has been sent to the various experiment stations which have shown an interest. Others who wish to try the plant must be content with root divisions until such time as more seed is harvested. The plant increases so rapidly by root division that one can start with a few plants and by replanting each year soon have as large an area as he wishes. This method has the added advantage of insuring an even stand, assuming of course that it proves adaptable to the soil on which it is planted.

Our start with clover was from about a dozen seeds planted on April 22, 1941. Four or five plants came up in the short row and by 1943 there were several hundred when the merit of the plant was recognized. In 1944 several rows were set in the open field and by the following spring there was a wonderful little field of clover when it came into bloom. The bees worked the flowers vigorously and several pounds of seed were harvested.

The flowering time is the entire month of June and the first half of July and there is every indication of a good yield of nectar for the bees. Instead of a deep corolla such as the red clover this one is very shallow so that all nectar can readily be secured by the bees. The flower is similar to alsike in color and appearance although slightly larger with the head more elongated. In 1945 our plot set seed very heavily but in 1946 with less favorable weather conditions little was secured. It is very apparent that the plant depends upon bees for pollination. In 1945 with the bees swarming over the plot many heads contained a seed for nearly every floret. When the bees deserted the field little seed was set.

The field is a mass of flowers at blooming time and a very pretty sight. During much of the year only the basil leaves are present but in late May the flowering stems appear and they reach a height of about two to three feet with several flowers for each stem. Indications are that only one crop of hay could be cut per year although we have not yet cut a crop and removed it to see whether a second bloom would occur.

The habit of growth is such that one would expect the plant to remain indefinitely when once established. It is of special promise for waterways in erosion control, for roadsides and other places where a soil binding plant is essential. Until the experiment stations have had time to grow it along with other plants and to determine its place in the crop rotation no recommendations can be made. On our grounds it looks promising for either meadow or pasture but it has not yet been put to test for such purposes. Of one thing we can be sure, it is a good source of bee pasture. If it is used generally in the soil conservation program the beekeeper will find a substantial addition to his nectar supply.

It appears to be entirely winter hardy and not subject to injury from heaving which proves disastrous to the clovers in common use. The leaves are similar in appearance to red clover although some are very much larger.

In localities where it succeeds it offers much promise of stabilizing the bee pasture, through planting the roadsides. Its habit is such that it will not be easily killed by cutting and apparently when the roads are worked and the soil disturbed it will grow again from the roots which are covered by machinery.

It is highly desirable that this new

clover be tried under a wide variety of conditions to determine its value in the North and in the South, to learn whether it will succeed on wet soils or dry soils, on acid soils or sweet soils and whether it will stand competition with weeds and with grasses. In our test plots it has had the advantage of good soil with no plant competition.

As stated in the former article, the advantages of this clover for the beekeeper are: 1) its apparent permanence when once established. 2) its abundant flowers with nectar readily available to the bees. 3) its habit of spreading from the root which permits an increase in the number of plants even though it is not permitted to form seed. 4) the extensive root system which serves to prevent erosion and makes it attractive for use in soil conservation.

The short life of sweet clover and alsike are the worst drawback to their use and add to the uncertainty of bee pasture from year to year. This clover has been found to branch at varying depths below the surface and since any portion separated from the main stem continues to grow little damage is caused by heaving. A long lived clover is certainly very desirable for the beekeeper. As one soil conservation official said, "Won't it be fine if we can find a clover that is hard to kill?"





in the fall.

John E. Johnson, Missouri, places Simpson Honey Plant at the head of the list of all the honey plants he grows; Article entitled "Planting Especially for Bees," Gleanings In Bee Culture, September 1946.

The seed, which is very small should be sown on top of the ground in winter or very early spring.

Seed, 20c per packet, \$1.00 per ounce, postpaid.

## **CATNIP**

**(Nepeta Cataria)**

Catnip is a famous bee plant common to our grandmother's herb gardens. It has since been widely naturalized in fence corners and unused gardens. Perennial, blooming over a long period and never failing to attract the bees. Sow the seed in early spring while the ground is cool.

Seed, 20c per packet, \$1.00 per ounce postpaid.

## **GARDEN SAGE**

**(Salvia Officinalis)**

The garden sage has been cultivated for centuries for its aromatic leaves which are used in flavoring foods. It is a long lived perennial and should be included in every garden. The flowers are attractive to bees and a high quality honey is gathered from garden sage.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **SALVIA SUPERBA**

This is a strong growing sage reaching a height of about three feet and blooming intermittently all season. It blooms very freely in May and June and again in September with some flowers all summer. It is usually swarming with bees. Perennial.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **SALVIA VIRGATA**

Salvia virgata is a strong growing perennial reaching a height of three or four feet, with light blue flowers. It is native to Europe and the Orient. It blooms freely in mid-summer and is much visited by the bees. It is of easy culture and may well be included in any ornamental garden as well as bee pasture.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **BULGARIAN SAGE**

**(Salvia jurisica)**

This low growing perennial sage has attractive foliage as well as flowers to hold the interest of the gardener. It blooms freely for several weeks and is very attractive as a bee plant. Perennial.

Seed, 20c per packet.

## **SALVIA PRATENSIS**

This is the first of the sages to bloom in our garden and it provides good bee pasture for sev-



eral weeks in early spring when forage is scarce. It blooms very freely and is always full of bees. It is of easy culture and one of the best plants for naturalizing along roadsides and in waste places. Perennial.

Seed, 20c per packet.

## MARJORAM

(*Origanum vulgare*)

Marjoram is a European plant, cultivated in gardens and naturalizes readily under right conditions in this country. It is a favorite of the honey bee and in a few localities in eastern states has become sufficiently common to enable the bees to secure considerable fine quality honey from it. The plant is perennial and prefers limestone soils. Blooms in the fall.

Seed, 20c per packet.

## WILD INDIGO

Wild indigo is a perennial native to the mid-west prairies which is worthy of much more common cultivation. Dozens of stalks arise from a single roct in a well established plant and often reach a height of three feet with large clusters of blue pea-like flowers. Very attractive to the bees.

Seed, 20c, per packet, postpaid.

## HOREHOUND

(*Marrubium vulgare*)

Horehound is a well known herb which comes from Eurasia and has become naturalized over parts of the United States. It blooms from July to September and the flowers attract many bees. It is the source of much dark honey in some localities.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## CHAPMAN HONEY PLANT

(*Echinops spaerocephalus*)



Chapman Honey Plant blooms heavily in mid-summer.

Chapman Honey Plant, also known as Globe Thistle once enjoyed a real boom among the beekeepers. The plant is biennial and reaches a



height of six feet. It blooms heavily in mid-summer. The flowers are covered with bees and are grown for ornament. This plant is easily grown and can be planted either spring or fall.

Seed, 20c per packet, ½ pound \$1.00, 4 pounds for \$5.00, postpaid.

## **ECHINOPS RITRO**

The blue flowered Chapman Honey Plant is perennial growing to a height of about four feet on our soil. It is not nearly as tall as the other variety but is more desirable as an ornamental. It comes into bloom somewhat later and lasts into September.

Seed, per packet 20c.

## **LESPEDEZA BICOLOR**

Lespedeza Bicolor is a shrubby variety from the Orient which blooms very freely in late summer and is very attractive to the bees. Reaching a height of about six feet, this one is well suited for screen or hedge. Attractive in both foliage and flower. This plant is being used in some areas in strip plantings for game cover along woodland borders. It should become important to bee-keepers for wasteland planting. Perennial.

Seed, 20c per packet, ½ pound \$1.50, postpaid.

## **LESPEDEZA CYRTOBOTRA**

Lespedeza Cyrtobotra is another shrubby species from Asia. It is perennial and requires about three years to reach full maturity. It begins blooming in the second season and is very attractive to the bees. This species apparently yields more nectar than any lespedeza that we have thus far been able to secure. It reaches a height of about six feet on our grounds.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **ASTER**

The wild asters are the last source of nectar in many localities. We offer a mixture of several of the most ornamental varieties including New England aster, smooth aster and arrow leaf aster. All are worthy of a place in any garden. Plant in early spring while the ground is cool. Perennial.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **BORAGE**

**(Borago officinalis)**

Borage has long been famous as a bee plant and has been much planted in European honey plant gardens. It is an annual native to Europe and North Africa.

Although the honey is dark and not of the best quality the bees visit the flowers so freely that it should be included in every extensive collection of honey plants. It is a hardy plant blooming for a long period and seed should be planted in early spring where the plant is to grow.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.



## **BURNET**

**(Sanguisorbia minor)**

This hardy perennial native to Eurasia is sometimes grown in the flower garden as an ornamental, in the vegetable garden as a salad plant and in the field as a forage crop. It is very drought resistant and easily grown. It is very attractive to the bees, blooming in midsummer for several weeks, but apparently is sought mostly for pollen.

Seed, large packet 20c, postpaid.

## **DRAGONHEAD**

**(Dracocephalum moldivici)**

An annual of the mint family which is of easy culture and reseeds readily. Very attractive to the bees.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## **MIGNONETTE**

**(Reseda odorata)**

Mignonette has long been a favorite with those who have bee gardens. It is an annual which comes from North Africa and has been widely distributed in ornamental gardens. The bloom is very fragrant. Some very extravagant claims have been made as to the amount of honey to be secured from this source. While there is no proof that such yields can be secured the flowers are very attractive to the bees and it seems probable that if enough of it were available good crops might be harvested. Try it in your garden.

Seed, large packet 20c, ounce 75c, postpaid.

## **CALIFORNIA POPPY**

**(Escholtzia californica)**

The California poppy is a familiar plant to those who have visited the West Coast in springtime. Millions of them may have been seen in bloom along the roadsides and in waste places.

In the East it is grown as an annual. It reseeds freely and is easily grown in gardens or naturalized in sunny situations. The bees visit the flowers in large numbers for pollen. It blooms over a long period.

Seed, per packet 20c, ounce 75c, postpaid.

## **PHACELIA**

The fiddle neck phacelia (**Phacelia tenacetifolia**) is native to California but is widely grown in European gardens as a honey plant. In Germany it is also grown to some extent for forage and is used for silage. It is a famous bee plant and is one of the most commonly grown where gardens have been planted especially for the bees.

It is an annual of easy culture and the flowers are covered with bees from morning till night. It reaches a height of about two feet with blueish or pink flowers.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.



## Herbs

See description on previous pages.

Giant Hyssop	Anise Hyssop
Marjoram	Mountain Mint
Nepeta Mussini	Catnip
Horehound	Woodmint
Borage	The Salvias
Burnet	Sesamum

## PRICKLY POPPY

(Argemone)

The white prickly poppy is a native to the southwest and is a common sight from Kansas to Texas. It is an annual of easy culture and with large white flowers for a long time in summer. The bees are much attracted to this plant for pollen.

Seed, 20c per packet, postpaid.

## SESAMUM

Sesamum is an annual of easy culture. It grows to a height of about three feet in this climate and the large flowers are very attractive to the bees. Apparently if the plant was cultivated in sufficient acreage it would be a source of surplus honey. It blooms in late summer.

This plant is grown in very large acreage in the tropics and is an important food plant for millions in Asia. It is important principally as a source of edible oil which is one of the best for table use and congeals less readily than olive oil.

Sesamum has been grown with success at the Nebraska experiment station where a study of its commercial adaptation is under way.

Seed, 20c per packet.

Seed of any of the above, 20c per packet, or six packets for \$1.00. Any fifteen packets for \$2.00. Postpaid.

## Books

**FLOWERS OF THE WILD** by Frank C. Pellett. A book about wild flowers based on thirty years experience with several hundred species. More than 100 photographs and four color plates illustrate the text. Here will be found useful information for insuring success with wild flowers. Cloth binding, 168 pages. \$1.00 per copy, postpaid.

**A LIVING FROM BEES** by Frank C. Pellett. A cloth bound book of 335 pages, well illustrated which as its title suggests outlines proved methods of making a living from bees. The fundamentals of honey production are explained with reasons for every necessary manipulation.

Conditions under which beekeeping is practical as an exclusive business and when it is better to be followed as a sideline are discussed at length. \$2.25, postpaid.

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